

609-619 South Meyer Avenue
Barrio Libre (Barrio Histórico)
Tucson
Pima County
Arizona

HABS No. AZ-73-30

HABS,
ARIZ,
10-TUCSO
30/30 -

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Architectural and Engineering Record
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

BARRIO LIBRE (Barrio Histórico)

609-619 SOUTH MEYER AVENUE

HABS No. AZ-73-30

Location: 609-619 S. Meyer Ave., Tucson, Pima County, Arizona.

USGS Tucson Quadrangle, Universal Transverse
Mercator Coordinates: 12.502680 .3563970

Present Owner: Joseph E. and Robert E. Abodeely
% S. B. Double J. Investment Co.
1806 Madison Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43624

Present Occupants: Unknown.

Present Use: Residential; apartments.

Significance: This row of apartments is made up of two separate buildings, one built prior to 1900, and an addition to the south wing built between 1920-1925. The earlier portion displays the recessed doors and windows common to Sonoran structures, while the doors and windows of the later addition are set flush with the face of the wall, in the Anglo tradition. This row of apartments bears a resemblance to the others lining the same block facing W. Kennedy Street and South 8th Avenue (continuation of S. Convent Ave.), built by the same person, Juan Pascale. The remnants of a toldo (an overhanging porch or awning) are still attached to the earlier structure.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 609 S. Meyer Avenue, pre-1897.
611-619 S. Meyer Avenue, 1920-1925.
2. Architect: None known.
3. Original and subsequent owners: See chain of title below.

Block 247, Lot 2, arb. 4.

1900 Deed, March 30, 1900, recorded in Volume 30, page 406.
Francis Ortega and Joe Napoleon to Francisco Colores.

1901 Deed, November 16, 1901, recorded in Volume 32, page 405.
Estate of Refugio Galves to Francisco Ortega and Joe Napole

- 1906 Deed, September 21, 1906, recorded in Volume 41, page 42. Francisco and Filipe Colores to Alberto García.
- 1909 Deed, February 6, 1909, recorded in Volume 46, page 167. Alberto and Sara García to Lee Lung.
- 1909 Deed, February 25, 1909, recorded in Volume 46, page 182. Lee Lung to John Pascale.
- 1915 Deed, May 25, 1915, recorded in Volume 60, page 424. Alberto and Sara García to John Pascale.
- 1933 Deed, February 13, 1933, recorded in Volume 168, page 379. John Pascale to Antonia Pascale.
- 1945 Deed, September 21, 1945, recorded in Volume 288, page 55. Estate of Antonio G. Pascale to Miguel G. Pascale et al.
- 1946 Deed, February 6, 1946, recorded in Volume 292, page 516. Antonia Pascale Miranda as Extrx. vx. Frederick Maish et al.
- 1946 Deed, February 9, 1946, recorded in Volume 292, page 577. Miguel G. Pascale et al to Stanley A. and Floy K. Thayer.
- 1966 Deed, July 26, 1966, recorded in Volume 2794, page 566. Estate of Floy K. Thayer to Stanley A. Thayer.
- 1972 Deed, January 26, 1972, recorded in Volume 4174, page 212. Thayer to Abodeely.

4. Builder: Juan Pascale.

5. Alterations and additions: The corner apartment, 609 S. Meyer, was constructed earlier than the other apartments (between 1890 and 1897). The apartments to the south were added between 1920 and 1925. The overhanging porch or awning was added to the west facade between 1914 and 1919.

B. Historical Persons and Events Connected with the Structure:

These apartments, and all those on the half-block bounded by South 8th Avenue (continuation of S. Convent Ave.), S. Meyer Avenue, and W. 17th Street, were built by Juan Pascale, an Italian carpenter. Pascale lived in Tucson from 1885 until he died at his home at 576 S. Convent Avenue in 1936. Many persons who later established long-time residences in the Barrio Libre lived temporarily at 609 S. Meyer Avenue--Librado Villa (1907), who later ran a blacksmith shop at 504-506 South Convent; Juan Vindiola (1910), proprietor of a butcher shop at 614 S. Meyer; and Maximo Yslas, a Southern Pacific employee who later lived at 496-498 S. Convent Avenue. Most of the tenants of this row of apartment dwellings remained less than five years. All were Spanish-surnamed and were generally employed in laboring and construction trades or in the SPRR shops.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION (See Significance, above, and Barrio Libre (Barrio Histórico)(HABS No. AZ-73) for site plan and historical background essay.)

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Arizona Historical Society clipbooks (Juan Pascale).
Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps, 1909, 1914, 1919, 1948.
Tract Books, Pioneer National Title Insurance Company (Microfilm, Recorder's records).

Tucson City Directories, 1897-1979.

Oral Interviews:

Eliazar Herreras, 1331 E. Waverly
Felix Fimbres, 462 E. 31st Street

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Historic American Buildings Survey
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PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey(HABS) of the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service's National Architectural and Engineering Record (NAER) in cooperation with the Tucson Barrio Association, Inc. Funds for the project were provided by the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office and the Arizona State Office of Economic Planning and Development. Under the direction of Robert Kapsch, Chief of NAER, John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS, and Kenneth L. Anderson, Principal Architect, the project was completed during the summer of 1980 at the HABS field office in Tucson, Arizona, by Robert C. Giebner, Project Supervisor (Professor of Architecture, University of Arizona); William Joseph Graham, Project Foreman (University of Maryland); Ann E. Huston, Project Historian (California State University, Sacramento); Maureen L. Gerhold, Assistant Historian (Pennsylvania State University); Student Architects Scott Marshall Dolph (University of Arizona); Carol Jean Lemon (Washington State University); and Harrison Adam Sutphin (Virginia Tech); and Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) Summer Youth Employment Program Interns: Maria Arriola (Tucson High School); Ernest Cota; Lupita Lopez (Tucson High School); and Anna Trinidad. Photographic records were made for HABS by David J. Kaminsky, Photographer, Roswell, New Mexico. Editing and final preparation of the documentation was carried out in 1981 in the HABS Washington Office by William Joseph Graham, Architect, and Lucy Pope Wheeler, Writer/Editor, of the HABS professional staff.